

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ACTING GOVERNOR VALDAMIER COLLENS SIGNS A PROCLAMATION HONORING THE VICTIMS OF THE TRAGEDY IN CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE AND HONORING THE MANY VIRGIN ISLANDERS WHO CONTINUE TO SACRIFICE THEIR LIVES IN PROTECTION OF THIS COUNTRY

(St. Thomas, July 22, 2015) On July 21, 2015, the President of the United States of America, Barack Obama, issued a Proclamation ordering that all flags of the United States of America be flown at half-staff on the White House, and upon all public buildings and grounds under federal jurisdiction honoring the victims of the tragedy in Chattanooga, Tennessee. In his Proclamation, President Obama noted that the thoughts and prayers of the Nation are with the service members killed last week in Chattanooga. President Obama further honored their service and offered the Nation's "gratitude to the police officers and first responders who stopped the rampage and saved lives."

"I join President Obama and the Nation in honoring the service members who were slain in Chattanooga, and further honor the many Virgin Islanders who continue to sacrifice their lives in protection of this country. Accordingly, it is appropriate that the Territorial Flags be flown at half-staff for the length of time as ordered in President Obama's Proclamation." Stated Acting Governor, Valdamier Collens as he signed the proclamation ordering the flag of the Virgin Islands of the United States to be flown at half-staff at Government House and upon all public buildings and grounds, throughout the Territory until sunset, July 25, 2015.

###